MEMO

To: Community Planning and Physical Services Committee

From: Leon Davidoff, Chairperson

Date: October 17, 2012

Subject: Community Planning and Physical Services Committee

In Attendance: Leon Davidoff, Claire Kindall, Denise Hall, Ron Van Winkle, Rob Rowlson, John Phillips, Steve Huleatt

The Community Planning and Physical Services Committee met on Monday, October 15, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in Town Hall, Room 312 to discuss the following:

AGENDA

1. Garbage and recycling

The Town is moving its garbage disposal contract from Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority to Covanta. The disposal site will be the Bristol Resource Recovery Facility. The final contract is complete and should be signed shortly. The town has put out to bid its recycling contract. We received three bids, two of which are being reviewed. The recycling markets are soft right now but the likely contract will include a fixed price with a revenue sharing as the market recovers. The state has a task force on recycling which may be making recommendations on improving recycling and recyclable material in the future.

2. Public Works activity

John Phillips discussed the permitting system for the home owner drop off and the reduction in nonresident dumping. He also discussed the fact that we have closed the public works facilities at Beachland Park and Fernridge Park and moved those employees to Brixton Street.

3. Economic Development activity

Rob Rowlson discussed the hotel process. The developers are being interviewed for possible selection for fully developed proposals to be considered by the Town Council in the spring of 2013.

4. Keeping of farm animals

The Committee discussed the issues with allowing home owners to have chicken coops and laying hens for their own consumption. A number of regulatory issues were raised. The Committee asked the staff to obtain ordinances from other Connecticut communities and return to the next meeting of the Committee for further discussion.

5. Sidewalks and Transportation

The Committee discussed the town's recent inspection of sidewalk conditions townwide. The Department of Community Services is addressing the most egregious problems and will be asking the Town Council for an increase in the appropriation for sidewalk repair. The Committee also discussed the recent interest in bike paths and lanes in West Hartford.